

Newark Human Rights Commission

Human Relations News

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from the **NEWARK HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

HUGH J. ADDONIZIO, MAYOR

An official agency created by the Newark Fair Practice Ordinance to carry out the State policy against discrimination based on race, color, creed or national origin.

Room 214, City Hall, Newark, Mitchell 3-6300, Ext. 281

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A bi-monthly summary of facts and trends in human relations and civil rights

December 1962

Memorial to Eleanor Roosevelt

by Mrs. Philip Josephson

We join the people of the world in mourning the passing of a great and gracious lady: "The First Lady of the World—Eleanor Roosevelt." We remember her visits to our city with deep emotion, especially that evening eight years ago when she was honored at a Human Rights Meeting sponsored by the Newark Chapter of the American Association for United Nations and the Mayor's Commission.

The people came out in the thousands to honor her, in fact we had to use several rooms in the Essex House for the overflow audience. Eleanor Roosevelt went to each room personally to meet the people. We remember also January of 1958, when she came with representatives from four U. N. countries to Hayes Homes, a public housing project where the tenants prepared and served a luncheon for her and the foreign guests.

She visited in the homes, discussed food with the women, also talked about their children. Again she was not just a great lady but an interesting friend. She visited our library, museum, Barnbergers, U. N. Square and was always interested in what we were doing. She spoke at some of our schools, also at a dinner given by the State A.A.U.N.



Three new Commissioners received the oath of office in the Mayor's office on December 13. Shown, (l. to r.), are Alexander Mark, Commission Chairman, Paul G. Caelechia, Mrs. Philip Josephson, Lucius H. Tompkins, Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio and Joseph Quinn, City Clerk's Office.

in her honor which she wrote about in her column "My Day".

She was always ready to give of herself for any worthwhile cause but especially for World Peace, Human Rights and Understanding. There is no monument that could ever do her justice only the love and the memories of her warmth and humanity we have in our hearts. She was truly, as Adlai Stevenson said so movingly "One who would rather light candles than curse the darkness".

COMMITTEE AGAINST HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

The annual meeting of the New Jersey Committee Against Discrimination in Housing will take place at Rutgers on Saturday, February 9, 1963 in New Brunswick.

Mark the date on your calendar now for this vitally important conference and write to Arnold Harris, 32 Central Avenue, Newark, if you wish to be invited.

The Newark Human Rights Commission wishes you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Joyous Hanukkah. May the New Year be dedicated to the advancement of human rights for all people in our City, State and Nation.

MAYOR APPOINTS NEW COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio appointed on December 13, 1962 Paul Gaetano Cavicchia, Mrs. Sylvia Josephson and Lucius H. Tompkins as new members of the Newark Human Rights Commission.

Paul G. Cavicchia was born in Newark, New Jersey on February 2, 1917.



Paul G. Cavicchia

son of the Honorable Peter A. Cavicchia, former member of the United States House of Representatives.

He attended the Lincoln Public School and West Side High School of Newark, American International College of Springfield, Massachusetts, American Institute of Banking, and Rutgers University. He is married and has a son.

Clerked for Peter A. Cavicchia. Was affiliated with the Chemical Bank & Trust Co. (Personal Trust, operations division) of New York City, and prior to entry into service with the Finance Division of the War Department (Office of Dependency Benefits).

Called to the colors and inducted into the Army of the United States, December, 1942.

After four years of distinguished service he was honorably discharged in 1946. He has been a member of the staff of the Essex County Prosecutor's Office under three different prosecutors and is now on the staff of the Lincoln Mutual Casualty Assurance Company of Newark.

He is a member of the Third Presbyterian Church of Newark and served as a director of Morton Street Branch of the Newark Boys Club.

His other affiliations are with the Newark Police Post No. 1439 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Post 300, Newark Post Office, American Legion. Also he writes articles on steamboats as a member of the Steamship Historical Society of America. He lives at 279 Parker Street in Newark.

Mrs. Sylvia Josephson has lived in Newark the major part of her life; married to Philip, teaching in the Newark School System. They have a daughter, Cynthia, a recent bride this past year of Bernard Best.

Active in community affairs for over twenty years, her endeavors and achievements are many. A few of the noteworthy results are: Founder and first



Mrs. Sylvia Josephson

president of the Newark Chapter, American Association for the United Nations; chairman for many years of the local United Nations Celebration Committee and responsible for Newark U. N. Programs for the past 9 years. She has been a vice president of the N. J. Branch of the AAUN.

An original member of the Newark Citizens Housing Council, Alliance for Integration and Dignity, Newark Citizens Committee on Urban Renewal, she is also a Board member of the Visiting Nurses Association and the Community

Services Committee of the Urban League.

Serving the interests of many organizations, among which are: League of Women Voters, N.A.A.C.P., Rutgers Workshop Alumni, Hadassah and American Jewish Congress. Mrs. Josephson is presently employed as tenant relations assistant for the Newark Housing Authority Tenant Relations Division. Resides at 169 Goldsmith Avenue in Newark.

(Continued on page 5)

Electrical Union Opens Program to Tan Youths

Qualified colored youths interested in electrical contracting will now have an opportunity to learn the trade under a union apprenticeship program, if work conditions warrant such a program.

This was one of the agreements made by top officers of Local 52, IBEW and a group of colored contractors at a meeting held last week.

The meeting was sparked as a result of the recent U. S. Commission on Civil Rights hearing held here.

Five colored contractors met with IBEW head Lew Vehling last week seeking to find out what plans the union had made with reference to integration.

The contractors, Roscoe Jennings, Sol Satterwhite, Bernard Edmondson, Alvis Maclin and James Malone, were reportedly told by Mr. Vehling that qualified colored youths would be admitted to the apprenticeship program if sufficient work warranted it.

Mr. Malone, who headed the committee, stated also that colored contractors have not been able to accept major jobs because union labor has not been available to them.

Mr. Vehling also reported that if colored contractors met the qualifications, the union will see to it that they have full use of all union help available.

Mr. Malone testified at the Civil Rights hearing that non white electrical workers are systematically excluded from the union.

Mr. Vehling's testimony was that the lack of non-white union members was due to the fact that they don't apply.

Reprint from New Jersey Afro-American

NEW EXECUTIVE HOUSING ORDER ENCOURAGES MILLIONS IN GROUP RELATIONS

By Robert Segal

Won't End Disgraces of House Hunters

President Kennedy's "stroke-of-the-pen" Executive Order, prohibiting discrimination in housing built or purchased with Federal help, isn't going to end the American disgrace of saddling humiliation, indignity and embarrassment on many people looking for a place to live. But it is a giant stride in the right direction.

This is true because the central target of the long-awaited Executive Order is the great slum clearance and urban renewal program, now remaking vast areas of urban America. Following a five year study, a report issued back in February by "Action," the National Council for Good Cities, indicated that more than one trillion dollars (a thousand billion dollars) would be needed in the next 20 years to remake our great cities in such a way that the doubled urban population expected within a generation would be accommodated in adequate, sanitary housing. We are just getting started on this vast operation which must be free of discriminatory aspects.

The Kennedy order is a great step forward for other good reasons. The timing of the issuance of the order was not lost on those who follow the news closely.

The Presidential press conference at which the housing order was announced, was billed as a session rich with news about the Cuban crisis. Literally millions who were tuned in had little, if any, interest in housing and housing discrimination. But along with receiving good news about the easing of tensions created by Fidel Castro, they also heard the Chief Executive make his dramatic announcement barring bias in Government-affected housing.

Perpetrators of Bias on Defensive

Again, the President's initiative puts the perpetrators of discriminatory practices on the defensive. Many of the diehards who have been yelping that legislation calculated to end housing bias is unconstitutional are among the first to criticize action by the chief executive.

"I don't think there is any constitu-

tional authority for the order," said Sen. A. Willis Robertson (D., Va.). Nor would he be caught advocating the legislative approach. Undoubtedly, he was dejected also when the Supreme Court in 1954 called for school desegregation, a civic blight closely related to housing discrimination.

Robertson and many who share his views are thus dissatisfied with approaches to this problem or injustice through either the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of government. How would they handle this national disgrace then?

The eloquent answer is that they do not want a solution. They are satisfied to go on seeing people denied equality of opportunity just as long as they suffer no such disability. They would never comprehend the key finding of the distinguished Commission on Race and Housing which asserted in 1958, following an intensive three-year, \$400,000 study, that "compulsory residential segregation is the basic inequality which underlies or stimulates other forms of discrimination."

I-in-6 Found Restricted

Was that finding lost upon the eyes and in the ears of the National Association of Real Estate Boards? That same historic report declared that practically one in every six Americans is restricted in opportunities to live in the neighborhood of his choice, not for financial reasons, but for reasons having to do with race, color, or ethnic origin. Did this finding faze the real estate men?

We believe it has. We believe that real estate men want to make money and cannot be innocent of the fact that discarding discriminatory habits will surely open up to profits. We believe moreover that thousands of real estate men are thoroughly ashamed of an old NAREB admonition cautioning against "introducing into a neighborhood a character of property or occupancy, members of any race or nationality, or any individuals whose presence will clearly be detrimental to property values in that neighborhood." This was—perhaps unwittingly—a dec-

laration written with the ink of racism. The war against the nazis should by now have dried up that ink.

But even if it hasn't, the fact that scores of real estate men are unabashedly joining the ranks of other Americans fighting for the principle of fair housing practices is encouragement enough. Each hammer stroke helps. Legislation dealing with housing discrimination in 16 of our 50 states; the action of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in upholding the constitutionality of such legislation; the willingness of Congress to extend the life of the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights; and now the use of executive power by President Kennedy in issuing a new administrative order—all these blows for improvement help to advance us to that point at which we shall square our actions with our preachments.

(Reprint from The Jewish News)

Challenges of the Mid-Century

Newark and Essex County residents have a rare educational and cultural opportunity: a series of lecture-forums at B'nai Abraham Temple, 621 Clinton Avenue. Tickets are \$6.00 for the series and can be obtained by calling or writing the Community Forum at the above address.

The internationally known speakers and the topics they will discuss are as follows:

- Dr. Max Lerner, Thursday, December 13, 1962 at 8 p.m. "Challenges of the Mid-Century to American Politics".
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Thursday, January 17, 1963 at 8 p.m. "Challenges of the Mid-Century to Religion".
- Dr. Harold Taylor, Thursday, February 28, 1963 at 8 p.m. "Challenges of the Mid-Century to Education".
- James Felt, Thursday, March 21, 1963 at 8 p.m. "Challenges of the Mid-Century to the American City".
- Dr. Erich Fromm, April (date to be announced) "Challenges of the Mid-Century to Psychiatry".

Suggested Human Rights Reading for Holiday Humanists

The Black Muslims In The United States

Anyone with one good ear to the ground has been hearing a great deal of loose talk about the Black Muslims in the United States and in Newark.

Although several volumes have recently been written on the Muslims in America, too few white citizens have taken the time to read them.

Because we strongly feel that one of the major functions of the Newark Human Rights Commission is to keep people informed of facts as they differ from fiction, we have reproduced several pages of the attitudes of America's foremost Negro novelist and spokesman, James Baldwin. He is the author of the current national best seller, *Another Country* published by Dial Press, 1962, New York City.

The "New Negro" Speaks Up

Many readers of the New Yorker Magazine have been spreading the word of a recent article by James Baldwin which appeared in the November 17, 1962 issue entitled, *Letter From A Region in My Mind*.

Because we feel that Mr. Baldwin has become this country's most articulate and advanced Negro spokesman, we are reproducing four consecutive pages (74-77) from his first major non-fiction book *Nobody Knows My Name*, Dial Press, New York City, 1961—\$4.50.

Although this excerpt does not include all of the author's sentiments contained in the New Yorker Magazine, or his novel *Another Country*, we believe it is a fair cross sectional view of his thinking.

Primer For Whites

Baldwin's first major non-fiction book "*Nobody Knows My Name*" was published in 1961 by Dial Press, New York City. The price is \$4.50 and it is worth twice that amount to every white person living in a Northern Urban Center such as Newark. It is important because James Baldwin is the accepted prophet of the New Negro, the intellectually articulated citizen of the decade of the 60's.

But if the few pages of Baldwin reproduced elsewhere in this issue (page 5, column 1) is too rich for your blood, there are several other books on the Black Muslims which can be found in all local book stores and the Newark Public Library. Probably the most erudite and definitive study is "Black Nationalism."

Search For Identity

A Search for an Identity in America. This carefully documented work is written by E. U. Essien-UDOM who was born in Nigeria. He came to America in 1951, took his A.B. degree from Oberlin College, Ohio in 1955 and then went to the University of Chicago for his A.M. and Ph.D. degrees. He is now Teaching Assistant in Government and Research Associate at the Harvard University Center for International Affairs.

This comprehensive book is published by the University of Chicago Press and sells for \$6.95. It is most reading for precinct police captains and other officers of the law who want to know more about a movement of overtly awesome proportions. The truth this volume presents is quite likely to give the reader a totally different concept of this minority attempt to find a more pleasing self image in the Ghettos of central city America.

We would also recommend it for classroom teachers in schools of more than 25% Negro population.

C. Eric Lincoln's Classic

Another book which is a bit easier reading, though no less scholarly and fascinating is C. Eric Lincoln's *The Black Muslims in America*, published by Beacon Press, Boston, Massachusetts.

We have recommended these three Negro authors so highly, because we feel that what they have to say is crucially important to all Americans, both Negro and white. If rampant antagonism toward the Black Muslims in the United States becomes standard operating procedure for our law enforcement agencies, and is spread to society at large, the growing danger

is that all persons of dark skin may suffer from the negative identifications or image foisted upon the Black Muslims.

Eventually many innocent groups will unfortunately become suspects and a reaction could set in which would destroy many of the marked gains of the past ten years toward better race relations.

If every thinking American will take the time to read one of these three suggested books, we will all be in a better position to continue our progress toward reason and understanding of a seriously questionable issue for black and white. Regressive and reactive steps against Black Muslims may well revive a return to the greater inequalities of the 1940 type of treatment reserved for citizens of color.

Equal Opportunity Day November 19

The Annual Equal Opportunity Day celebration of the Essex County Urban League was held this year on Monday, November 19, at a dinner meeting at the Hotel Essex House, 200 persons attended.

Harvey C. Russell, Vice President of the Pepsi-Cola Company was the guest speaker and made a presentation on the subject "Equal Opportunity: Its True Meaning in Business and Industry Today."

Mr. Russell is one of the few Negroes who currently occupies a top management position with a major corporation in our country. He first came to Pepsi-Cola as a field representative in 1950. He advanced to a position of assistant to the sales vice president in 1953; to projects manager for the company in 1953; and was named director of special markets activity in 1957. In January of 1962, Mr. Russell was elevated to the position of vice president in charge of special markets.

BROTHERHOOD WEEK

FEBRUARY 17-24, 1963

Believe it! Live it! Support it!

James Baldwin Speaks— "Nobody Knows My Name"

"... What I find appalling—and really dangerous—is the American assumption that the Negro is so contented with his lot here that only the cynical agents of a foreign power can rouse him to protest. It is a notion which contains a gratuitous insult, implying, as it does, that Negroes can make no move unless they are manipulated. It forcibly suggests that the Southern attitude toward the Negro is also, essentially, the national attitude."

Northern Interference

"When the South has trouble with its Negroes—when the Negroes refuse to remain in their 'place'—it blames 'outside' agitators and 'Northern interference.' When the nation has trouble with the Northern Negro, it blames the Kremlin. And this, by no means incidentally, is a very dangerous thing to do. We thus give credit to the Communists for attitudes and victories which are not theirs. We make of them the champions of the oppressed, and they could not, of course, be more delighted."

"If, as is only too likely, one prefers not to visit Harlem and expose oneself to the anguish there, one has only to consider the two most powerful movements among Negroes in this country today."

Negro Student Movement

"At one pole, there is the Negro student movement. This movement, I believe, will prove to be the very last attempt made by American Negroes to achieve acceptance in the republic, to force the country to honor its own ideals. The movement does not have as its goal the consumption of overcooked hamburgers and tasteless coffee at various sleazy lunch counters. Neither do Negroes, who have, largely, been produced by miscegenation, share the white man's helplessly hypocritical attitudes toward the time-honored and universal mingling. The goal of the student movement is nothing less than the liberation of the entire country from its most crippling attitudes and habits. The reason that it is important—of the utmost importance—for white people, here, to see the Negroes as people like themselves is that white

people will not, otherwise, be able to see themselves as they are."

Who are the Black Muslims?

"At the other pole is the Muslim movement, which daily becomes more powerful. The Muslims do not expect anything at all from the white people of this country. They do not believe that the American professions of democracy or equality have ever been even remotely sincere. They insist on the total separation of the races. This is to be achieved by the acquisition of land from the United States—land which is owed the Negroes as 'back wages' for the labor wrested from them when they were slaves, and for their unrecognized and unhonored contributions to the wealth and power of this country. The student movement depends, at bottom, on an act of faith, an ability to see, beneath the cruelty and hysteria and apathy of white people, their bafflement and pain and essential decency. This is superbly difficult. It demands a perpetually cultivated spiritual resilience, for the bulk of the evidence contradicts the vision. But the Muslim movement has all the evidence on its side. Unless one supposes that the idea of black supremacy has virtues denied to the idea of white supremacy, one cannot possibly accept the deadly conclusions a Muslim draws from this evidence. On the other hand, it is quite impossible to argue with a Muslim concerning the actual state of Negroes in this country—the truth, after all, is the truth."

One Hundred Years of Emancipation

"This is the great power a Muslim speaker has over his audience. His audience has not heard this truth—the truth about their daily lives—honored by anyone else. Almost anyone else, black or white, prefers to soften this truth, and point to a new day which is coming in America. But this day has been coming for nearly one hundred years. Viewed solely in the light of this country's moral professions, this lapse is inexcusable. Even more important, however, is the fact that there is desperately little in the record to indicate that white America ever seriously desired—or desires—to see this day arrive."

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Commissioners Appointed

(Continued from page 2)

Lucius H. Tompkins was born in Richland, Georgia, December 20, 1909. He is a graduate of Trenton Central High School and of Vale School of Business. He is an insurance salesman, represents the Unity Mutual Life Insurance Company, 32-36 Green Street, Newark, N. J. A member of Bethany Baptist Church, 117 W. Market Street.



Lucius H. Tompkins

Newark, N. J., he is active in church as teacher of Bible Class and Chairman of Scholarship Fund Committee.

A former Scoutmaster of Troop No. 46, he is now a Neighborhood Commissioner, Lincoln District, Robert Treat Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Tompkins served as Motor Vehicle Agent, Newark, N. J., from 1953 to 1955, for New Jersey State Motor Vehicle Department. He is affiliated with the American Legion, Guyton Callahan Post 152, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Pvt. Albert Harvey Post 2139; William L. Stubbs Civic Association; Philip E. Gordon Association; served on Newark Sanitation Commission.

He is Vice President of the Insurance Workers International Union AFL-CIO, Local 40, Newark and Vice President of American Association For United Nations, Newark Chapter.

He is married and the father of three children.

Community Relations Specialist Appointed

Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio announced the appointment of John T. Barnes on January 2, 1963, of 734 S. 19th Street, Newark who will become Community Relations Specialist of the Newark Human Rights Commission at a salary of \$7,000 per year. His job will include maintaining the good neighborhood relations of families to be relocated as a result of urban renewal.



John T. Barnes

Mr. Barnes was born in Tarboro, North Carolina. He was educated in the public schools of Tarboro, North Carolina and Newark, New Jersey, Morgan College and Virginia State College. He received his B.S. degree in Psychology and Philosophy from the latter college.

He served as President of the College Y.M.C.A. and represented the College in the intercollegiate interracial Conferences with Human Rights themes.

He served as liaison between the Army and the Jarka Corporation at Port Newark during World War II.

Mr. Barnes has for many years been a Public Relations, Promotions, and Political Consultant. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Prince Hall Mason-Bethany Lodge No. 31, Shriner-Golconda No. 24. President of the Turner Association for the past ten years, a civic organization which

afforded the opportunity to delve into almost every facet of Human Relations, Civil Rights, and Community Relations.

He served as advisor to Irvine I. Turner when he was appointed to F.E.P.C. as its first Secretary. He sat in on many of the Fair Employment Cases.

For years he has worked with many people who had varied problems, advising them and serving in any way possible, getting aid for the disabled and living quarters for the homeless.

This experience will prove invaluable in his new position of trouble shooter and race relations coordinator for Daniel S. Anthony, Director and the thirteen member Newark Human Rights Commission.

Russell Stresses Use Of Non-white Potential

"The Negro is a valuable resource which our national effort cannot afford to ignore."

Harvey C. Russell, Pepsi Cola Company vice president, stressed this point last week in addressing the Equal Opportunity Day dinner of the Urban League of Essex County at Hotel Essex House.

Mr. Russell, the highest ranking colored executive with the soft drink firm, urged business and industry to demonstrate their belief in equal opportunity for all by granting advancement opportunities to qualified non-whites.

"In spite of the signs of progress," the speaker told 150 guests, "this meeting this evening indicates there is still a need for such equal opportunity programs."

He noted that the publicity surrounding his promotion as a Pepsi Cola vice president indicates how far behind business and industry lags in the area of equal opportunity.

Mr. Russell was critical of firms which hire a single colored person in a position as a "showcase." He termed this token employment "special opportunity."

The speaker urged listeners to "instill our younger people with enough vision" to prepare for employment previously barred to non-whites.

Reprint from *New Jersey Afro-American*

James Baldwin

(Continued from page 5)

"Usually, for example, those white people who are in favor of integration prove to be in favor of it later, in some other city, some other town, some other building, some other school. The arguments, or rationalizations, with which they attempt to disguise their panic cannot be respected. Northerners proffer their indignation about the South as a kind of badge, as proof of good intentions; never suspecting that they thus increase, in the heart of the Negro they are speaking to, a kind of helpless pain and age—and pity: Negroes know how little most white people are prepared to implement their words with deeds, how little, when the chips are down, they are prepared to risk. And this long history of moral evasion has had an unhealthy effect on the total life of the country, and has eroded whatever respect Negroes may once have felt for white people."

Africa vs. United States

"We are beginning, therefore, to witness in this country a new thing. 'I am not at all sure,' states one prominent Negro, who is not a Muslim, 'that I want to be integrated into a burning house.' 'I might,' says another, 'consider being integrated into something else, an American society more real and more honest—but *this*? No, thank you, man, who needs it?' And this searching disaffection has everything to do with the emergence of Africa: 'At the rate things are going here, all of Africa will be free before we can get a lousy cup of coffee.'"

"Now, of course, it is easy to say—and it is true enough, as far as it goes—that the American Negro deludes himself if he imagines himself capable of any loyalty other than his loyalty to the United States. He is an American, too, and he will survive or perish with the country. This seems an unanswerable argument. But, while I have no wish whatever to question the loyalty of American Negroes, I think this argument may be examined with some profit. The argument is used, I think, too often and too glibly. It obscures the effects of the passage of time, and the great changes that have taken place in the world."

Mrs. Gonzalez Appointed to Commission Staff

Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio announced the appointment of Marie Gonzalez of 160 Lafayette Street, Newark as the Puerto Rican and Spanish Affairs Coordinator of the Newark Human Rights Commission. She will start work on January 2, 1963 at a salary of \$6,000 per year.

Born in 1915 in Puerto Rico, her family moved to New York in 1920 where she graduated from High School and Business College. In 1935 she married Theodore Gonzalez, and in 1940 moved to Newark with her three children.



Mrs. Marie Gonzalez

She became interested in community activities when her children were in school. As one of the founders and first president of the Lafayette Street School PTA, she had the opportunity to bring about better relations and understanding among the Latin American citizens of the community.

As Den Mother of the Cub Scouts of her parish, she was responsible for the first inter-racial Scout Troop in St. Joseph's which still exists today. She remains active with the Scouting program.

She has been in the employment of the Rubberstet Co. over nineteen years, and during this time she served in United Appeals Drives, Labor Management Committees and on the Teamwork in Industry panel for the National Con-

ference of Christians and Jews at Rubberstet. As chief stewardess and Executive Board Member of the Brush-makers Union, Local 303, for seventeen years, she has helped to bring better understanding and relations among co-workers and management.

Her new job as Puerto Rican and Spanish Affairs Coordinator will call upon all this past experience. It will be her function to facilitate the adjustment of newly arrived Spanish speaking citizens and to help them get into the mainstream of urban living.

Central Ward and Youth

Our name Central Ward Youth Concerns Coordinating Committee serves to introduce and sum up our activities. We are concerned that our youth are the citizens of tomorrow. We are concerned with atom and hydrogen bombs stockpiled around the world, whether our children will live in a world of chaos, or in man's most progressive century. We are concerned that integration is making great strides in the South, while the Central Ward is predominantly Negro, and as such segregated. We are concerned that our homes are dilapidated and that most of them are fire traps. We are concerned that our people cannot get into Trade Unions—that the types of jobs they acquire make them last hired and first fired. We are concerned because we have the greatest crime rate in the city. We are concerned because our youth are truant in bars and poolrooms and the police take no action.

Because of our concern, Heads and Directors of Social Agencies, Principals, Vice Principals, Social Workers, Guidance Counselors, Parent Teachers Association members form this group, to present data and formulate plans to attack these problems.

Our most acute problem is what to do with our 70 to 90 I.Q. group; this child is not educable in our present system. The I.Q. is too high for acceptance in Special Education. It is not high enough to be accepted in our Vocational Schools; State Law requires this child to attend school until 16. The work in Junior and Senior High Schools is beyond him; as a result he

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THE GHETTO GAME

Racial Conflicts in the City

by Dennis Clark

Published by Sheed and Ward, New York
1962 — \$4.00

Dennis Clark has made a significant contribution to the social psychology of housing and race in the United States in his compact compendium of America's most embarrassing problem: its treatment of the Negro. His latest survey and analysis of big city housing is a remarkably condensed volume of information every resident of Essex County ought to read. It is 243 pages of pay dirt knowledge which will help us all to adjust to the inevitable change taking place around us. With Megalopolis descending upon us at an ever quickening pace, perhaps we might all use this book to begin to separate racial fable from social fact.

Mr. Clark has prepared this philosophical primer on "Why we don't seem to be able to live together happily" from the vantage point of his rich career as a housing specialist in the Philadelphia-New York region for more than ten years. His earlier book, "Cities in Crisis", marked him as one of the practitioners in the intergroup relations field who can write as well as he works and thinks.

As a researcher and analyst of the multitudinous conflicts involving white and non-white residents in integrated housing, Mr. Clark has no easy panaceas. The reader of this book becomes eminently aware of the causative factors which make a resolution of the problem an almost impossible task.

The Ghetto Game is a study of the tactics and strategy employed by various elements of the majority white community to keep non-whites in the central city ghettos. It is an exploration of the feelings, thoughts and actions of those sinning and those sinned against. Slumlords, blockbusters and real estate agents are participants in this 1950-1960 national game, but so are the suburban status seekers and the heterogeneous residents living on the periphery of the hardcore ghetto.

Mr. Clark opens up on his first page of this tautly written treatise with "Racial difficulties have plagued our nation as a tragic doubt corrodes a

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The Ghetto Game

(Continued from page 7)

great hope. . . Morally, the problem of race has mocked the power of religion in our national life. It is in the light of these facts that our citizens must now dispose themselves to deal with racial problems in the fluid and contradictory environment of the growing city."

From this laconically lyric beginning, he develops with objective logic the historic, social and psychological complexities which have made the American Dilemma of Negro-white relations the Achilles heel of our national life and the scar on our international facade.

On page 221, he tell us: "While it is true that analysis of racial change may not yield any reliable criteria that can be used to forecast non-white movement, we must know what forces are influencing such movement if we are realistically to continue working for increased housing opportunity and stable interracial community life." Although this quote appears in his penultimate chapter, I believe it states not only his thesis but also what the book has attempted to do for the reader caught up in the vortex of mid-20th century urban transition. He has told us what is happening, how it is transpiring and why we can expect the rate of neighborhood change to keep accelerating. He also asks us to start doing something about it.

Dennis Clark gives us that rare combination of objective research knowledge and subjective emotional empathy. On one page he analyzes our current malady of racial prejudice dispassionately. On the following page, he can sympathetically project why the Italians, Poles or Jews feel as they do about the inroads the Negro is making into the previously all white domain.

He thinks that the historical and cultural development of the Jewish group has made it more amenable to an open neighborhood policy for the

upwardly mobile Negro family. "Perhaps there is some basis for supposing that the liberal opinion prominent in big-city Jewish circles and the traditionally non-violent disposition of Jews exert an attraction on Negroes seeking a way out of segregated neighborhoods."

Or on the relationship of education to neighborhood change: "In education, Negroes and Jews are further apart than any of the other groups in the mainstream of American Life. . . In a group keenly preoccupied with education (the Jews) the coming of Negroes to the public schools seems, in the light of racial stereotypes, like a blow to the educational advantages and prospects of Jewish children." And in relation to the problem of the Synagogue affected by the racially changed neighborhoods: "This is one reason for the growth of the 'echo ghetto' in the suburbs. The old downtown congregation reforms in the new area."

"And in social organization, we perceive once again a great disparity between Jew and Negro. Jews have an enviable apparatus of fraternal charitable and civic organizations manned by articulate and effective leaders. Negroes are still suffering from the paucity of leadership that has been a traditional characteristic of depressed ethnic groups arriving on the urban frontier. Men like Martin Luther King are exceptional in any group."

Mr. Clark has accomplished the task of reducing race relations in housing to its least common denominators. He helps us to understand why we feel as we feel and how we might start thinking to resolve some of the conflicts which face us during the urban renewal decades of our immediate future. Although he avoids projecting a program for the future, he strongly suggests that our goal must be racial harmony if our nation is to survive. And when we have devised our "for-

mula for urban freedom" . . . we shall have proved to ourselves and to the sons who come after us that the American cities we have built are worthy settings for the exercise of those virtues and ideals which have shone like jewels on the strife-anointed brow of Western man. These are the rewards that await us if we can banish racism from the cities of our land."

Reviewed by

Daniel S. Anthony

Central Ward and Youth

(Continued from page 7)

becomes a disciplinary problem and at the age of 16 he is cased into the streets.

What is the result? Teen-agers with time on their hands and no skills or education to secure a job; pregnancy for the girl and often forced parenthood for the boy. What kind of marriage can result? What kind of home to raise a new generation? Look at the ages of the candy store robbers—the muggers—the unintentional murderers. These people need an occupation. We think our community needs a school to give them one. Skills such as paper-hanging, painting houses, linoleum laying, floor care and upholstering might teach this group to make a living with their hands—for we know they are not working otherwise.

Can these youngsters be spotted as early as the third grade? Why not try to catch them early—channel their activity so it benefits the community and society. It costs us whether they exist in jails or houses of correction. It adds years to the lives of our Teachers. Can we give these youngsters a purpose in life? These things are the concerns of our committee.

William H. Edwards
Recording Secretary and
Leonard Holman
Chairman

Warmest Holiday Greetings from The Newark Human Rights Commission

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